

Message Text

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FOR COMMERCE/BIC/CAGNE/P. HALE

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: BEXP. LE

SUBJECT: VISIT OF MR. MAURICE GHANEM (LEBANESE INVEST-
MENT PROPOSALS)

1. SUBJECT HAS BEEN AUTHORIZED BY THE MILITARY COUNCIL OF THE SOCIAL LEBANESE DEMOCRATIC PARTY (AL-KATAEB) TO REPRESENT THE COUNCIL ..IN ALL THE AFFAIRS RELATED TO THE LEBANESE CAUSE AND THE LEBANESE IMMIGRANTS IN NORTH AMERICA". VISITOR WILL TRAVEL TO LOS ANGELES DURING WEEK OF NOV. 22, WHERE HE WILL SEEK FINANCIAL SUPPORT FROM INVESTORS OF LEBANESE EXTRACTION FOR INDUSTRIAL AND OTHER PROJECTS TO ASSIST IN LEBANON'S ECONOMIC RECOVERY.

2. MR. GHANEM REQUESTS OPPORTUNITY TO MEET WITH CAGNE OFFICERS ON FRIDAY, DEC. 3, IN WASHINGTON TO DISCUSS PLANS FOR REHABILITATING EXISTING PLANT IN LEBANON'S CHRISTIAN AREA, AND TO SOLICIT SHOPPING LIST OF US FIRMS THAT APPEAR TO BE POTENTIAL INVESTORS IF APPROPRIATE GUARANTEES CAN BE PROVIDED. SPECIFIC INTERESTS ARE ELECTRONIC PROCESSING, AUTOMOTIVE ASSEMBLY CONSTRUCTION, TOURISM, FRANCHISE OPERATIONS, AND FOOD-PROCESSING. (RE LATTER ITEM, VISITOR EMPHASIZED TRADITIONAL ROLE OF LEBANON IN SUPPLYING FRUIT, VEGETABLES AND POULTRY TO MIDDLE EAST). PREFERENCE UNDERSTANDABLY WOULD BE FOR MANUFACTURING AND SERVICE ACTIVITIES THAT

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PAGE 02 LONDON 17688 031736Z

ARE FAIRLY LABOR-INTENSIVE.

3. LOS ANGELES BUSINESSMAN "CHICK" WEISENBERGER PROBABLY WILL ACCOMPANY MR. GHANEM, BUT HAS NO DIRECT INTEREST IN THIS INVESTMENT INQUIRY.

4. REQUEST APPOINTMENT TIME AND NAME OF CAGNE CONTACT.
SPIERS

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